

APPROVED: Meeting No. 26-91

ATTEST: *Sharon A. Gran*

MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND  
Meeting No. 23-91

May 28, 1991

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in General Session in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, Maryland Avenue at Vinson Street, Rockville, Maryland, on May 28, 1991, at 7:35 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Douglas M. Duncan

Councilmember James F. Coyle

Councilmember Viola D. Hovsepian

Councilmember James T. Marrinan

Councilmember David Robbins

In attendance: City Manager Bruce Romer, City Clerk Sharon Gran and City Attorney Paul Glasgow.

Mayor Duncan thanked everyone for a wonderful Hometown Holidays weekend. Surveys were taken throughout the weekend and, in July, the Mayor and Council will hold a worksession with the Recreation and Parks staff to review the weekend and begin planning for next year's event.

Re: Introduction of Ordinance to  
Appropriate Funds and Levy  
Taxes for Fiscal Year 1992.

The Ordinance setting the appropriation level for each of the operating and capital funds for FY1992 (July 1, 1991-June 30, 1992) was duly introduced by Councilmember Hovsepian. The proposed property tax rate is \$.82 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

Re: Introduction of Ordinance to  
amend Chapter 24, "Water,  
Sewers and Sewage Disposal"  
of the Rockville City Code,  
Section 24-46 entitled "Water  
Consumption Charge."

Meeting No. 23-91

2

May 28, 1991

This Ordinance which increases the water consumption rate from \$1.13 per 1,000 gallons to \$1.25 per 1,000 gallons, effective July 1, 1991, was duly introduced by Councilmember Robbins.

Re: Introduction of Resolution to increase the refuse collection rate to \$22.00 per single family residence per month (\$264.00 per annum) for FY1992.

The Resolution to increase the refuse collection rate for FY1992 was duly introduced by Councilmember Coyle.

At 7:37 p.m., the Mayor and Council adjourned the General Session and convened in Worksession.

#### PRESENT

Mayor Douglas M. Duncan

Councilmember James F. Coyle

Councilmember Viola D. Hovsepian

Councilmember James T. Marrinan

Councilmember David Robbins

In attendance: City Manager Bruce Romer, Assistant City Manager Rick Kuckkahn and City Clerk Sharon Gran.

Re: Worksession on Capital Improvements Program for FY1992-97.

The Mayor and Council and the following members of the Planning Commission reviewed the proposed Capital Improvements Program for FY1992-97: Gloria Atlas, Chairperson, Cindy Hall, Yolande Langbehn, James Vitol and Nina Weisbroth.

The City Manager referenced his memorandum of May 28, setting forth revisions to the FY92 proposed budget. With respect to the additional funding of \$494,000 required for the Ritchie Parkway Project, in particular, wetlands mitigation, funding for construction of the sidewalk portion of the West Montgomery Avenue project can be deferred. Even if the State were to release the monies now for West Montgomery Avenue,

Meeting No. 23-91

3

May 28, 1991

this work would not commence until after FY92. The Mayor and Council may wish to take the \$494,000 out of the \$868,000 for this project. There would be no difficulty funding this in FY93.

The Assistant City Manager outlined the criteria established for a CIP project and noted that it serves both as a planning tool and a financial tool.

The following specific items were discussed:

Asbestos Abatement Program

It was noted that there is no funding beyond FY92 as the City is in the final stages of this program.

Civic Center Natural Areas

Following clarification of the type of projects involved, Commissioner Vitol raised the question of whether it is appropriate to use General Obligation bonds for these improvements rather than the General Fund. Staff will follow-up in this regard.

Courthouse Square Park Improvements

Commissioner Langbehn questioned the need for the additional parking spaces as it was her understanding that the Victoria did not require parking on Courthouse Square. The Traffic Engineer responded that the seven spaces would service the Credit Union. Concern was expressed by Commissioner Langbehn that Courthouse Square should not become a parking lot. Mayor Duncan requested that staff provide the Mayor and Council with plans for these improvements prior to the June 4 worksession.

Dawson Farm Park

It was noted by Councilmember Hovsepien that, last year, funding for this project was proposed for FY92, and now it has been moved back to FY97.

F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre & Social Hall

Commissioner Atlas questioned the feasibility study concerning expansion of the theatre. Discussion followed regarding a new theatre, perhaps in Town Center. It

Meeting No. 23-91

4

May 28, 1991

was agreed that the RFP would include a request to study the appropriateness of constructing a new theatre.

Lincoln Park Neighborhood Enhancements

After staff detailed some of the projects proposed for FY92, Mayor Duncan commented that these enhancements have been discussed for two years, and it is time to move forward with them.

Clarification was also provided regarding use of the Property Management Fund for CDBG eligible projects.

Rec Centers - Kitchen Improvements

Councilmember Hovsepian requested that these improvements be moved up on the schedule, if possible, and staff will review the feasibility of this request.

Redgate Improvements (FY1991 - 1993)

Mayor Duncan questioned the debt service payment and residual equity of the Redgate Revenue Fund and requested that staff obtain copies of the resolution and minutes from the meeting at which this was discussed.

Senior Center - Master Plan Improvements

Commissioner Vitol questioned the length of the lease for the Senior Center and was advised by staff that the lease, with options, can run through 2023.

Tennis and Basketball Court Improvements

It was noted that the prior years' total encompasses several years as this is a four-year program.

Welcome to Rockville Signs

This project will be completed by the end of FY91 and, therefore, is deleted from the CIP.

Commissioner Vitol noted that on Route 28 at the Rockville entrance, the landscaping is not up to par with the adjacent County area. Staff advised that there

Meeting No. 23-91

5

May 28, 1991

are no curbs or gutters on the City's median which would have to be installed before landscaping.

Commissioner Atlas commented that it would be nice to install "Welcome to Rockville" sign at the Falls Road interchange, and staff will check into this.

#### Beall Avenue Sidewalk

Councilmember Hovsepien asked if there is a possibility that this project could be moved forward, and Mayor Duncan indicated that this would be a wish list item for consideration on June 4.

The Finance Director advised that the West End Citizens' Association requested that the special assessment proposed for this project be eliminated.

#### Concrete Maintenance Program

Commissioner Vitol questioned the reduction of \$100,000 for this program in FY92. Staff responded that, if more funds are needed, they could subsequently be added. There is still \$200,000 unexpended this fiscal year.

#### Directional Signage

Moving this project forward to FY92 will be added to the wish list for June 4.

#### Fleet Street Extension

Staff advised that a corrected map has been prepared for this project.

#### Highland Avenue - Grandin Avenue 200' East

Mayor Duncan noted that questions had been received from citizens regarding this project. Staff responded that it is included in the CIP as an issue with no attendant funding as they are awaiting a developer contribution for the construction.

#### Maryland Avenue Sidewalk

Staff noted that this is a previously authorized project and that there has been sensitivity to moving this project forward. Time to work with the neighborhood is

Meeting No. 23-91

6

May 28, 1991

needed, and the City Manager advised that the construction could be deferred until FY93 with the planning stages remaining in FY92. Councilmember Marrinan requested a report on any pedestrian accidents on Maryland Avenue.

#### North Farm Traffic Improvements

Funds for the traffic signal at Farm Haven Drive and Montrose Road will remain in the CIP in the event the County approves the installation.

#### Ritchie Parkway - Seven Locks to Rockville Pike

The Finance Director provided an explanation to Councilmember Hovsepian regarding the negative figures shown in FY92, that is, the bid awarded for construction of the bridge over I-270 came in lower than expected and the negative figure in the special assessment line is used to change the timing of the City's commitment for a portion of the project from FY91 to FY93.

At Councilmember Coyle's request, the City Manager reviewed the timetable for the project's wetlands mitigation. Under the current permit, construction is to be completed by February 1992; however, it appears that the project may be extended through the fall of 1992.

#### Southlawn Lane

Councilmember Hovsepian questioned why General Obligation Bond funding was cited if there was to be a developer contribution. Staff noted that the GO funding was for non-assessable costs.

#### West Montgomery Avenue Reconstruction

Councilmember Hovsepian referenced the State's commitment to fund the reconstruction, and staff responded that they hope the State lives up to its agreement.

#### Veirs Mill Road at Edmonston Drive

Mayor Duncan requested that traffic improvements at this intersection be added to the wish list for the June 4 worksession.

Meeting No. 23-91

7

May 28, 1991

Cabin John Relief Sewer

Staff confirmed for Mayor Duncan that funding would be from the Storm Water Management Fund and there would be no impact on City taxes.

Dover Road-WGL SWM Facility

In response to Councilmember Hovsepian's question regarding wetlands mitigation required, staff noted that it would be less than two acres.

Key West SWM Facility

Commissioner Vitol commented that the Planning Commission has recommended that the name of Key West Highway be changed to West Montgomery Avenue.

Montrose Woods Park SWM Facility

Concern was expressed by Commissioner Vitol regarding the size of the facility. Staff advised that meetings are scheduled with nearby neighbors to apprise them of the details. Also, this is a State-mandated program.

Rockmead Park SWM Facility

Staff will provide information to Councilmember Marrinan concerning the size of the stone dam.

Town Center Stormdrain Outfall

It was noted that there are many Town Center projects in the CIP which are not listed in the Town Center section. A cross-index will be added to reflect all projects in the various categories which impact or benefit Town Center.

Maple Avenue Sidewalk

Mayor Duncan requested that the four-foot sidewalk on the north side between First Street and Woodburn be added to the wish list.

Upon motion of Commissioner Vitol, duly seconded and unanimously passed by all Commission members present, the Planning Commission recommended approval to the Mayor and Council of the proposed FY92-97 Capital Improvements Program for the City of

Meeting No. 23-91

8

May 28, 1991

Rockville, as herein amended.

Re: FY92 Operating Budget

Public Works

Among the issues discussed were:

- o Changes in refuse service and implementation of the last phase of Super Service.

- o Implementation of Federal and State mandates and concern with wetlands.

Mayor Duncan requested that a tour of the Ritchie Parkway be arranged for the Mayor and Council.

- o Regarding motor vehicle maintenance, an objective is to enhance the preventive maintenance standards and procedures for vehicles over 10,000 lb. GVW to conform to the State of Maryland Preventive Maintenance Program. As to the projected increase in gallons of fuel used between FY91 and FY92, Councilmember Hovsepien was advised that additional mileage was planned for refuse and a crew has been added, thus necessitating more fuel.

- o The Fleet Review and Management Process was reviewed, and the Finance Director will compute and share with the Mayor and Council the savings resulting from the implementation of the new vehicle replacement policy.

- o With respect to the Refuse Division, it was noted that all customers will be impacted with changes of service on October 7. Thus far, the changes implemented on April 1 have been very successful. Discussion followed regarding bags for yard waste and yard waste dump fees to be avoided with use of the composting facility.

- o Regarding Water System Maintenance and the Water Treatment Plant, training of plant staff to maintain their Maryland certification was mentioned.

Other items discussed included: fewer calls for backflows as a result of better maintenance; the replacement police cruisers are being outfitted and will be

Meeting No. 23-91

9

May 28, 1991

ready in the near future.

Recreation and Parks

Issues discussed included:

- o the formation of additional advisory committees;
- o increased services for the Hispanic community including a soccer program at Montrose;

- o favorable resident fees;
- o recreational identification cards with a universal code;
- o maintaining a balance between frail elderly and active senior citizen programs.

With respect to Parks and Maintenance, over 30,000 plantings have been done this year, and facility maintenance is decreasing.

Over the Memorial Day weekend, \$18,000 in cash was received at the Swim Center from the one-day passes.

The Golf Course continues to do well.

The summer camp programs will operate at the same service level this year with the exception of a program at Beall Elementary which is currently undergoing renovation. Regarding the summer camp registration, it was noted that the consumers prefer the first come, first served approach. As a result of the registration program being transferred to the IBM mainframe, more registration stations will be added which should significantly decrease the processing time.

The neighborhood fairs continue to be successful, and the Department can supply equipment and staff for 50 such community events.

Regarding the proposals from the students participating in Student Government Days, the Swim Center Advisory Committee is considering the recommendation regarding lap swim, and the Recreation and Park Advisory Board will review the tennis question. The City Manager commented that all of the Student Government proposals are being

Meeting No. 23-91

10

May 28, 1991

formatted in a grid which will indicate the current status.

Councilmember Coyle requested information from staff regarding the feasibility of a Pitch and Putt Golf Course at an existing park facility.

Also discussed were the use of the Civic Center grounds simultaneously with the mansion and the operation of the Gift Shop.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:12 p.m., to convene again in Worksession at 7:30 p.m. on June 3, 1991, or at the call of the Mayor.